

Jailed Venezuelan opposition leader formally charged



CARACAS (AFP) - Venezuela's attorney general yesterday formally charged jailed opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez with inciting violence and other charges related to mass protests against the government of President Nicolas Maduro.

Lopez has been held in a military prison since his February 18 arrest in the midst of an opposition protest rally.

Attorney General Luis Ortega Diaz told a press conference, meanwhile, that formal charges were brought against

Lopez accusing him of inciting violence, arson, damage to property and conspiracy.

The government had until Saturday -- 45 days from Lopez's arrest -- to bring the charges or release him.

The government action stems from Lopez's public support for the student-led street protests that have rocked the country since they began February 4 in the western city of San Cristobal.

He and certain other opposition leaders are advocates of a strategy dubbed "the

exit," aimed at pressuring Maduro to resign.

Lopez said via twitter, "The 45-day deadline the Attorney General Office has to disgracefully indict me or vindicate justice by releasing me will expire on Saturday."

He reaffirmed that "for years I have been persecuted, disqualified, and now held in custody, yet dictatorship will not break my fighting spirit nor Venezuelans'."

So far, 39 people have been killed in clashes between protesters and security forces.



AMSTERDAM : AFP photo shows Dutch Queen Maxima (2nd R) and Sweden's Queen Silvia (C) visiting the nursing home "The Hogeweyk" in Weesp, The Netherlands, yesterday. King Carl Gustaf and Queen Silvia paid a two-day visit to the Netherlands to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Swedish-Dutch diplomatic relations.

Hope for Schumacher as he has 'moments of consciousness'

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ATA CEO launches Aruba's Treasure Box

Encouraging hotel guests to explore the island on their own

pg 2

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pg 2

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ATA CEO launches Aruba's Treasure Box guest amenity at Boardwalk Small Hotel

New approach encourages hotel guests to explore the island on their own



Ronella exploring Aruba's Treasure Box



Kimberly explaining the online concierge

PALM BEACH - Last week Ronella Tjin Asjoe-Croes, CEO of the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) officially launched the newest guest amenity of Boardwalk Small Hotel, Aruba's Treasure Box. By means of a 'treasure hunt' Tjin Asjoe-Croes discovered Aruba's Treasure Box on the hotels' lush grounds. Each box contains 10 small cards with information and directions to must-visit places, hotspots and hidden gems such as lesser known local eateries and beautiful viewpoints on the island and is offered to all guests as an in-room amenity.

Aruba's Treasure Box is supported by Boardwalk's online concierge providing extensive island information, both pre-arrival as well as on island.

Boardwalk-owner Kimberly Rooijackers elaborated on the idea for Aruba's Treasure Box. "Arubans are well aware that hospitality and friendliness set our island apart from other destinations, but sometimes tend to forget

what treasures and beautiful spots Aruba has to offer. Even tourists that have been coming to the island for many years, tend to return to old time favorites without discovering new spots on the island. Boardwalk Small Hotel approaches Aruba as a treasure box full of hidden gems. We want to assist our guests in discovering the island in a new and unique way. Basically it already starts right here on property, since Boardwalk is situated on a historic coco-plantation".

When returning from their discovery trip guests are also asked what they liked best or what other types of hidden gems they found themselves. This way the Treasure Box becomes a lively, fluid and ever-evolving process, offering unique island experiences. Locals can actively participate by directing tourists to their own favorite hangouts and less traveled spots so they can experience an authentic 'taste' of Aruba.

Ronella Tjin Asjoe-Croes

was very impressed with this new approach inviting guests to discover Aruba's best places. "This is a fresh and innovative way to point out that Aruba has so much more to offer besides sun, sand and our beautiful beaches. Aruba can be very proud of its heritage, nature, culture and special features and ATA therefore fully embraces the Aruba Treasure Box initiative." ATA's CEO also took a tour of the Boardwalk and its renovated casitas and found it "a great product, well-kept and run by a strong team".

In addition to Aruba's Treasure Box, all of Boardwalk Small Hotel's 14 casitas are equipped with a hammock and BBQ so that guests can experience the local life on their private patio as well. Complimentary maps, folded chairs, snorkel gear and coolers are provided to encourage guests to discover Aruba on their own.

More information can be found on www.boardwalk-aruba.com

Interesting seminar on Social Media & Digital Marketing today

ORANJESTAD -- On flights of United Airlines, Insel Air and Avianca Aruba welcomes three of the international speakers that will be speaking this Saturday April 5 2014 at the first E-Aruba Seminar. This seminar will focus on topics such as digital marketing, social media and entrepreneurship. The event starts at 9 am till 1 pm at the Renaissance Convention Center Aruba.

Many companies on the island are making use of this great opportunity to have this seminar take place on the island. Also many attendees from neighbor island Curacao are starting to arrive.

From New York USA will be Speaking Ramon Ray from Smallbiztechnolog. Ray is a best seller author with his book "Facebook Guide to Small Business Marketing". He will take care of the social media topics. Also from Florida Richard Pollack from BeyondROI will discuss the latest trends in digital marketing and why it is essential to use digital media. From the USA young and respected Andres Barreto from On-Swipe and many other companies will hold a keynote on entrepreneurship.

Interesting part if that after each keynote there will be a panel discussion with the international speakers and local experts. During the discussion the audience may also interact with questions using #earubaseminar.

Tickets for the seminar are still available at Office Systems, Write Here y online via www.e-aruba.com. Tickets will also be available be-



Ramon Ray



Andres Barreto

tween 8 am and 9 am at the site of the seminar, Renaissance Convention Center.

This event has been made possible by RBC Royal Bank Aruba, Marriott Resorts Aruba, Ministerio di Asuntunan Economico, Comunicacion, Energia y Medio Ambiente, Office Systems Aruba, Insel Air, PwC, Setar, Brand-it PR & Marketing, Crown Electronics, KPMG, Tera Group, WEB Aruba N.V., Elite Productions, Cool FM 98.9, Magic FM 96.5, Fresh FM 104.3, Click Print y 24ora.com. The event producer is Infinity Media Aruba.

Archeological Museum poised for becoming a Cultural Enterprise!



ORANJESTAD -- Last Thursday morning Minister of Tourism, Transport, Culture and Primary Sector, Otmar Oduber visited the Archeological Museum where he met the staff and personnel. They have been doing a great job of making the museum on the same level as others in the world. The Minister was given a tour of the facilities, works on display.

Oduber was also informed about the wishes and goals for the museum. The plans of the museum are to continue offering the general public an attractive program, and a program for the youth, also for our visitors. They intend on doing this together with their

partners in the vicinity, such as the Historical Museum, Rietveld and Atelier, as well as with their commercial partners.

According to the director of the Museum, Vivi, they have begun working with, among others, MAMBO and other instances in Oranjestad. They want to offer tourists as well as locals a unique museum experience.

The Minister was treated a new T-Shirt and publications of the Archeological Museum. He was very appreciative and congratulated everyone for their excellent work in promoting our cultural heritage to locals and visitors to the island.



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The 4th Garnier Beach Clean Up set to be grand!



ORANJESTAD -- The date for this clean up action is Sunday, May 18th from 7:00 in the morning at the Grapefield site. Reporting on this event were Lizayra Tromp-Polack, Sales & Marketing Manager Medicosmetics Aruba N.V. Garnier is very active in our community, especially in the area of the care of the environment as well as during the Carnival period. For the past 3 years, Garnier have been donating Fls.0.25 of every one of their products sold between April 1st and May 31st. The funds raised

are given to the Turtugaruba. Lizayra Tromp-Polack used the press conference to submit a check for Afls.2030 to Turtugaruba, which are the funds raised in 2013.

They were very grateful for their sponsors. One such sponsor is Focus which has been a supporter for the past three years consecutively. Others who have partnered with them are, Grupo Nos Cu Nos of Banco di Caribe and GLW Foundation. This year the team has grown and they have welcomed the support of Marriott Resorts, Blue

Green Properties, La Cabana, and Ecotech.

Ecotech has committed three trucks to help pick up trash and deposit this into three 20 yards

Lizayra concluded the press conference reminding everyone to begin forming their group and send in their list of participants along with their T-Shirt sizes. For more information regarding this clean up action, call Lizayra at 592-0121.

She can also provide you with the registration forms.



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ORANJESTAD -- From May 24th until June 4th a group of mainly medical volunteers from Aruba and Curacao will travel to Haiti to help. The past ten years this Caribbean country suffered from multiple natural disasters. Up to today, normal live in Haiti is not possible: there is a high shortage of clean water and malnourishment is a big problem. The live expectancy in Haiti is very low.



April 8 & 11 Oranjestad, level with LOCAL STORE
April 19: Soccer-evenement op Eagle Beach
May 17: The volunteered organize a hike with IBISA. The proceeds of the ticket sales will go to Haiti.

We call on all businesses, restaurants and individuals to donate through collections or through bank account Aruba Bank 217.628.0190. We appeal to both large and small company. Donors will be listed at our face book page Help Haiti don't forget and Twitter account @helphaiti2014.

Medical help

In conjunction with a local Christian relief organization, Love a Child, and the Red Cross the volunteers will travel to remote villages and provide necessary medical help to the Haitian people. But they need your help!

Fundraising

April 4 & 18: LINGNSONS
April 15: SUPERFOOD

Passover is coming and visitors are welcome to the local community Seder

ORANJESTAD -- On Monday, April 14, at sunset, Jewish families around the world will gather to observe the first Passover Seder and the commencement of the eight-day holiday. Pesach, in Hebrew, is a celebration of Moses delivering the Jews from bondage in Egypt, as well as remembrance for the time wandering in the desert, the retrieval of the ten commandments from Mount Sinai, and the refugees' final deliverance to the promised Holy Land. The name comes from the final of the ten curses brought upon the Egyptians by Pharaoh's threat to kill all the sons of the Jews. As the Angel came to the homes of Egypt to claim the first born son, it passed over their homes, as they were warned by Moses to paint their doors with lamb's blood.

Pharaoh then consented to allow the Jews to go and worship their God in the desert,



Traditional seder plate

but changed his mind.

The Bible relates that the Egyptian chariots caught up with the Jews at the Sea, but God performed a miracle, allowing the Jews to pass through the parted waters and then closing the sea upon the Egyptian soldiers and drowning them.

Pesach begins on the evening of the 14th day of the Hebrew lunar month of Nisan, on the day of the full moon, and lasts for seven days in Israel and eight days in the Diaspora, among the Jewish communities scattered around the globe.

All sects of the faith, even the most reformed, will sit down to a Seder on at least the first night of Passover, and usually the second as well. The last evening of the holiday will, in most cases, be a special meal. Most conduct their Seder within the home, which is a grand family gathering where certain special foods, very often only prepared twice in a year, such as gefilte fish, are served.

A traditional Seder plate, placed in the middle of the

table, includes six symbolic foods, and is associated to a fixed ritual of prayers, traditional chants and partaking of the festive meal, as is recorded in the Hagadah, a liturgical book dedicated to this holiday. The ritual's essence is the retelling of the story of the Exodus, involving and engaging the entire family.

During Passover, only certain foods are allowed, and others eaten during the year are declared "hametz." These include leavened bread and any other product that might contain yeast spores.

The house is thoroughly cleansed of any such items, which are removed from the pantry and disposed of.

Only matzoth, unleavened bread, is consumed during the holiday, as well as root vegetables, similar to those that would have been found by the wandering Jews, as they had no time to grow crops or allow their bread to rise.

Island visitors wishing to observe the holiday have two choices to join the island community for the first Seder.

Continued on page 5

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Passover...

Continued from page 4

Temple Beth Israel has been conducting a community dinner for the first night for more than twenty years. As the holiday requires, there is a great focus on the children with a hunt for the Afikoman. This year, Rabbi Daniel Kripper and his wife, Flora, are personally preparing the gefilte fish and matzoth balls, which he assures are "the best." Those interested in joining the local community for their first Seder can call Rabbi Kripper at Temple Beth Israel at 582-3272 to reserve a place. It will be in the synagogue's social hall and seating is limited, so advance reservations are advised.

Earlier this year, an outreach of the Chabad Orthodox movement established a Jewish Center in La Hacienda Mall in Palm Beach. Rabbi Ahron Blasberg will also be conducting a Seder, and interested parties can join their observance and dinner by calling 743-5157. They will be doing a service both the first and second evening of Passover.

Loyal visitors honored by Aruba Tourism Authority



Recently, Mr. and Mrs. Brad and Dawn Wegard (photo at left) were honored as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. They have been vacationing here for 10th consecutive years. During a small ceremony on their behalf at the Marriott Surf Club, Ms. Marouska Heyliger representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, presented them with a certificate as a 'thank you' gesture. Also present were Jenny Boekhoudt and Joop Bangma General Manager from Marriott Surf Club and Marouska Heyliger from ATA. At the Divi Village Resort, Mrs. Antoinette Abela from Ontario (bottom left) received the Distinguished Visitor of Aruba certificate in the name of the Aruba Tourism Authority. The event commemorates Mrs. Abela 11th consecutive visit to the island. Mrs. Abela loves coming to the island for its Beautiful Scenery and Culture. Also honored at the Divi Village Resort were Corey Center and Jim Exchange from Maine (photo top right). They received the Distinguished Visitors of Aruba distinction for their 10th consecutive visit to the island. They received their certificate from Marouska in presence of Raynedrick from ATA and Gloria from Divi Village.



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Life slowly returning to normal in quake-hit Chile

IQUIQUE (AFP) - Life was gradually returning to normal in quake-hit Chile officials said yesterday, with power restored to a majority of homes that lost electricity during this week's massive 8.2 magnitude temblor.

Tuesday's earthquake killed six people and forced thousands to evacuate, especially in coastal areas vulnerable to flooding and tsunamis.

Now, three days later, northern Chile had power and other basic services well on the way to being fully restored, according to regional power companies.

General Miguel Alfonso, head of the disaster zone, said water service was at nearly normal level in most areas, and that he expected normal food and energy distribution will be possible within about three weeks.

Recurring aftershocks have intruded, however.

A series of smaller, but still powerful quakes have shaken the country since Tuesday --

including a 7.6-magnitude temblor on Wednesday that forced thousands to flee their homes again.

Many families still slept outside Thursday into Friday, and were likely to continue to do so, as the aftershocks continue to rattle the country.

Officials said the hardest hit victims from Tuesday's quakes were inhabitants of desert towns and villages who reside in the highland plateaus where water sometimes is already scarce.

The fragile construction of dwellings in these areas puts residents at greater risk from building collapse during a quake, they said.

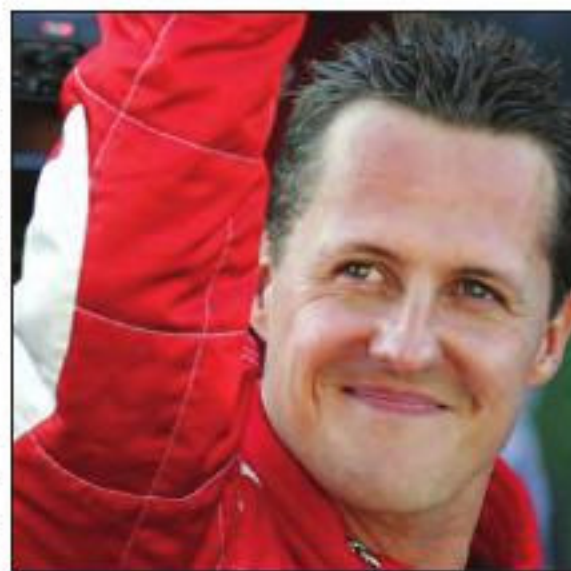
President Michelle Bachelet's new government, meanwhile, issued a warning to those seeking to profit from the misfortune, vowing aggressive prosecution against speculators.

Bachelet also has deployed troops to deter looting, but her government said no arrests had been made as of yesterday.

Hope for Schumacher as he has 'moments of consciousness'

GRENOBLE (AFP) - Michael Schumacher has "moments of consciousness and awakening," his spokeswoman said yesterday, in a sign of progress months after the Formula One legend suffered devastating brain injuries in a ski accident.

Doctors put Schumacher in a medically induced coma after the December 29 accident in which he slammed his head on a rock while skiing at the French resort of Meribel with his son and friends, and little has filtered



through since about his condition.

"Michael is making progress.... He shows mo-

ments of consciousness and awakening," Sabine Kehm said in a statement.

The 45-year-old remains in hospital in the French Alpine city of Grenoble, where he underwent two operations to remove life-threatening blood clots before being placed into a coma.

His family said at the end of January that drugs used to keep him in his deep sleep were being reduced with a view to bringing him back to consciousness.

Drought worsens food crisis in poverty-stricken Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AFP) - The World Food Program sounded an alarm yesterday over arid conditions in north-west Haiti that have worsened an already dire food shortage in this impoverished country.

"The situation is worrying," said Peter de Clercq, an official at the United Nations, which runs the international food aid agency.

The Caribbean country

"desperately needs food and nutritional assistance," said de Clercq, deputy special representative for the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti.

The UN official, who just completed an overflight of the drought-stricken region via helicopter, said the WFP already has provided food aid to tens of thousands of inhabitants of northwestern Haiti.

Government statistics here

showed that about 43 percent of households in Haiti's north-west suffer from food insecurity, compared to a national average of about 30 percent.

Officials at Haiti's National Council for Food Security said that recurring drought has worsened "chronic food insecurity" in the region, which has had "below average rainfall at least one year out of three" in recent years.

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Russia probes cheese factory after workers photographed bathing in milk



MOSCOW (AFP) - Russia on Friday launched a criminal investigation into breaches of hygiene at a cheese factory after footage of bare-chested workers bathing in vats of milk went viral on the Internet.

The Investigative Committee announced it was probing the factory in the Siberian city of Omsk for producing food that could cause harm to health after photographs of grinning workers bathing in foaming milk horrified Russians.

The scandal broke after a worker at the Omsk Cheeses factory posted the photographs on a social networking site with the caption: "Actually our work is pretty boring."

One photo shows six workers posing in a vat, sev-

eral wearing only shorts, and raising victory signs.

Video footage also emerged showing factory workers kneading the cheese bare-chested in a dirty-looking production area, gaining more than 300,000 views on YouTube.

Russia's food watchdog banned the factory's cheese late last month and a court on Thursday closed down the factory for 40 days.

The factory had sold more than 49 tons of its cheese this year in 14 cities, the Investigative Committee said. It specialises in string cheese.

If charged and found guilty of producing food that was unsafe for human consumption, the factory's managers could be jailed for up to two years.

Cuba demands US cease 'covert actions'

HAVANA (AFP) - Cuba demanded Friday that the United States cease its "illegal and covert actions" against the communist country following disclosures Washington set up a Twitter-style application there.

The White House on Thursday acknowledged the existence of the social media scheme but denied it was secret or intended to incite political unrest against the island's leaders.

"The US government must respect international law and the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and therefore cease its illegal and covert actions against Cuba, which are rejected by the Cuban people and international public opinion," for-

eign ministry official Josefin Vidal told AFP via email.

White House spokesman Jay Carney said the program, first revealed by the Associated Press, was a "development assistance" project targeted at Cubans facing government restrictions on information.

He added it had never been covert, was debated in Congress and conducted within US law.

Vidal, however, insisted the AP report "confirms the repeated complaints by the Cuban government."

"This once again shows that the United States government has not renounced its subversive plans against Cuba," she added.

These plans "aim to create destabilizing situations in the country to bring about changes in our political system and to which (the United States) continues to devote multimillion dollar budgets every year."

The project was known as "Zunzuneo" after a Cuban term for the buzz of a hummingbird and was a platform for Cubans to "speak freely among themselves," said Matt Herrick, a spokesman for the the US Agency for International Development (USAID) that set it up.

Cuba and the United States have not had diplomatic relations since 1961. Washington has maintained an embargo on the communist country since 1962.

AP photographer shot dead in Afghanistan

KHOST (AFP) - An Afghan police commander on Friday shot dead a female German photographer working for the Associated Press on the eve of presidential elections, in an attack that left a Canadian colleague wounded, the news agency said. The journalists were shot in their car in the Tanai district of Khost province, in the country's east, as they reported on distribution of ballot papers for the election to choose a successor to President Hamid Karzai. The incident comes as Afghanistan undertakes a massive security operation to protect voters and polling officials, after the Taliban pledged to disrupt Saturday's ballot with violence.



Anja Niedringhaus is the third journalist working for international media to be killed in Afghanistan during the election campaign, after Swedish journalist Nils Horner and Sardar Ahmad of Agence France-Presse. "Anja Niedringhaus, 48, an internationally acclaimed German photographer, was killed instantly," AP said in a report from Kabul. "Kathy Gannon, the reporter, was wounded twice and is receiving medical attention. She was described as being in stable condition and talking to medical personnel." "As they were sitting in the car waiting for the convoy to move, a unit commander named Naqibullah walked up to the car, yelled 'Allahu Akbar' - God is Great - and opened fire on them in the back seat," the news agency said. "He then surrendered to the other police and was arrested." "Anja and Kathy together have spent years in Afghanistan covering the conflict and the people there," said AP Executive Editor Kathleen Carroll in the AP report. President Hamid Karzai issued a statement expressing his condolences, and ordered an investigation.

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US approves handheld injector for painkiller overdose

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US regulators on Thursday approved a handheld injector device that average people could use in an emergency to revive a person suspected of overdosing on prescription painkillers.

Evzio contains a single dose of the drug naloxone, and is the first injector of its kind on the market for untrained medical personnel, the US Food and Drug Administration said.

The United States is in the midst of a prescription opioid epidemic, with overdoses taking more lives than cocaine and heroin combined.

"Tragically, the most recent data shows that more than 16,000 lives are lost each year due to opioid-related overdoses," said FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg.

News of Evzio's approval came just weeks after a potent new opioid called Zohydro hit the US market, raising alarm among some health ad-

vocates over the potential for more addiction and deaths.

Evzio, a combination drug-device product made by Virginia-based Kaleo, aims to help by offering an early intervention option for people at risk of overdose.

"Making this product available could save lives by facilitating earlier use of the drug in emergency situations," said Bob Rappaport, director of the Division of Anesthesia, Analgesia, and Addiction Products in the FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research.

The injector "can be carried in a pocket or stored in a medicine cabinet," said the FDA in a statement.

If a caregiver or family member comes across someone who is suspected of having overdosed and has lost consciousness or has decreased breathing or heart rate, the injector can deliver a single dose of naloxone into the person's skin or muscle.

Naloxone "rapidly reverses the effects of opioid overdose and is the standard treatment for overdose," said the FDA.

It is typically delivered to a patient via syringe in medical settings such as in an ambulance or the hospital emergency room.

The injector alone is not enough, and caregivers are urged to call 911 and get swift professional medical care in case of a suspected overdose.

More people die in the United States annually from prescription drug overdoses than from car crashes, the CDC said.

News of the device's approval was also welcomed by Andrew Kolodny, president of Physicians for Responsible Opioid Prescribing.

He also cautioned that having a quick way to administer naloxone is not a sure way to save someone, since many overdoses occur when a person is asleep or alone.



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Plane from Guinea briefly quarantined in Paris after Ebola scare

PARIS (AFP) - An Air France plane from the Ebola-hit west African country of Guinea was quarantined in Paris for two hours Friday after the crew suspected a passenger may have the deadly disease, the airline said.

The flight from the Guinean capital Conakry landed at Paris's Charles De Gaulle airport at 5:28 am (0328 GMT) with 187 passengers and 11 crew members on board.

Emergency services conducted checks for fever on all those travelling after a dirty toilet sparked concern that a passenger could be infected with the deadly and highly contagious disease, which apart from other symptoms triggers severe diarrhoea.

"The tests turned out negative," an Air France

spokesman said.

Ebola can be transmitted to humans from wild animals, and between humans through direct contact with another's blood, faeces or sweat.

Sexual contact, or the unprotected handling of contaminated corpses, can also lead to infection.

In Guinea, health authorities have reported 134 suspected Ebola cases since the beginning of the year of which 86 have been fatal.

Liberia has also reported cases of the disease, and Mali on Thursday detected three suspected victims of Ebola.

France last week stepped up vigilance for the virus. The country, a former colonial power in much of west Africa, is a major portal for air traffic from the region.

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TGI Friday's introduces lunch specials and Prime Choice Burgers



Smoke stack burger with sweet potato fries



Happy Hour specials



PALM BEACH-TGI Friday's Aruba GM Tony Bonilla welcomed island media to the stylish eatery within the Paseo Herencia Mall this past week to introduce a number of money-saving specials on their fun food, as well as four new 100% Angus Beef burgers available for a limited time.

"TGI Friday's is a great place for families, singles, sports fans, and we have various additions to the menu we are sure all who appreciate value for their dollar will find attractive," he told the press.

Now that the Major League Baseball season has begun, he was certain Red

Sox fans will want to watch their favorite Aruban player on any of the dozens of plasma screens both inside and on the terrace. During their daily happy hours, Monday through Friday, patrons can order their own giant beer dispenser with Amstel, Balashi or Heineken beer kept icy cold right at their table. Happy Hour at TGI Friday's also means 50% off selected appetizer platters for the perfect sports fare combo. The staff are ready to provide soccer fans with the best time and great food during the upcoming World Cup games.

Patrons can also now

choose from a variety of discounted lunch specials, beginning at only \$11 for a choice of their platter of the California Club, the traditional Friday's burger, or a Soup and Salad combo, which includes a choice of non-alcoholic beverage.

The new dinner specials offer "1 + 2 = \$25." For only \$25 dollars, couples can order two entrees and a single appetizer of their choice to share. On Saturday's and Sunday's, kids eat free with each order of an adult entree.

Finally, the TGI Friday's culinary staff was proud to present three succulent gourmet Angus Beef burger combinations that have been added to the menu for a limited time, with options for unique and tasty new side dishes. Try the either the Smoke Stack Burger, Bruschetta Burger, Cheesy Bacon Burger and select from crisp, crunchy-fried zucchini sticks, beer-battered Portobello mushrooms, sweet potato fries, or the grilled vegetable combo to accompany your meal.

TGI Friday's in the Paseo Herencia Mall in Palm Beach offers both indoor, air-conditioned comfort, or dining al



GM Tony Bonilla with beer tower and new burgers

fresco on their charming terrace, with all seating offering a great view of sporting events. The famous, diverse menu just grew, and the eatery has great, affordable

specials for both lunch and dinner. They invite islanders and visitors to come and enjoy and explore the attractive new additions and value meals.



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Microsoft launches 'Cortana' smartphone assistant

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Microsoft took on Apple's Siri and Google Now with a smartphone personal assistant dubbed "Cortana."

Windows Phone vice president Joe Belfiore introduced Cortana onstage at the technology titan's annual developers conference. "Cortana is the first truly personal digital assistant who learns about me, and the things that matter to me most, and knows about the whole Internet," Belfiore said in a presentation.

Cortana responds to conversationally spoken requests or commands, using insights gleaned from calendars, contact lists, online searches and other smartphone sources to respond in a manner akin to a real-life aide, Belfiore said.

Cortana's voice and character is based on a popular artificial intelligence character in Microsoft's blockbuster Xbox console video game "Halo."

It comes as a long-awaited counter to the Siri virtual assistant on Apple mobile devices and Google Now capabilities in Android tablets and smartphones.

Cortana will be in a test, or beta, mode when it becomes available in a Windows Phone 8.1 software update, which is to begin rolling out in the United States in coming months.

Microsoft met with real-life personal assistants while designing Cortana, which is powered behind the scene by search engine Bing, he said.

Hidden ocean on Saturn's moon bolsters life theory

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Saturn's moon Enceladus is home to an ocean of melted water beneath its surface, and could be a source for alien microbes, scientists said.

The first measurements of the subsurface water at the south pole of the small and icy moon were made by the US space agency's Cassini spacecraft, and are described in the journal Science.

The body of water is about the size of Lake Superior, the second largest lake on Earth,

and has a rocky bottom which could create conditions that allow tiny life forms to thrive.

Researchers first raised the possibility of a below-ground ocean on Enceladus in 2005, after water vapor was detected spewing from vents near the moon's southern pole.

"Material from Enceladus' south polar jets contains salty water and organic molecules, the basic chemical ingredients for life," said Linda Spilker, Cassini project scientist at NASA.

"Their discovery expanded our view of the 'habitable zone' within our solar system and in planetary systems of other stars," she added.

"This new validation that an ocean of water underlies the jets furthers understanding about this intriguing environment."

The Cassini spacecraft detected the shape of Enceladus' gravity field during three flybys from 2010 to 2012.

The gravitational tug exerted on the unmanned orbiter

was carefully analyzed for clues about what the interior of Enceladus contained.

Researchers believe the 500-kilometer (310-mile) wide moon's ocean is encased beneath a thick crust of crystal ice.

"For the first time, we have used a geophysical method to determine the internal structure of Enceladus," said co-author David Stevenson, professor of planetary science at Caltech.

"This then provides one possible story to explain why

water is gushing out of these fractures we see at the south pole."

The Cassini mission is led by NASA, with the cooperation of the Italian Space Agency and European Space Agency.

The spacecraft was launched 2004 and has visited all of Saturn's largest moons.

The sixth planet from the Sun, Saturn is characterized by its unusual rings and has 53 known moons and nine provisional moons.

US Justice Department probes high-speed trading

NEW YORK (AFP) - The US Justice Department has launched a probe of high-speed trading to see whether it involves illegal insider trading, Attorney General Eric Holder said yesterday.

"In the financial sector, concerns have been raised recently about a practice called 'high-frequency trading,'" Holder said, according to his prepared remarks for a House of Representatives hearing.

"I can confirm that we at the Justice Department are investigating this practice to determine whether it violates insider trading laws."

High-speed traders employ algorithmic formulas and whip-speed transmission lines to buy and sell stock.

Critics say the high-speed trading firms have tilted the market to win commissions and guaranteed profits at the expense of average investors.

"The Department is committed to ensuring the integrity of our financial markets -- and we are determined to follow this investigation wherever the facts and the law may lead," Holder, told a House Appropriations subcommittee.

A growing number of government agencies are scrutinizing the controversial practice, including the US Securities and Exchange Commission, the Commodities Futures Trading Commission and the New York state attorney general.

The public debate over high-speed trading heated up with Monday's release of a book by prominent author Michael Lewis.

In "Flash Boys: A Wall Street Revolt," Lewis argues that stock exchanges, large Wall Street banks and high-speed traders have together established a system that results in higher prices for the stock purchases of ordinary investors.

Proponents of high-speed trade argue that Lewis and other critics have misrepresented how the technology functions and the intent behind the system. They also note that some of the most-criticized practices are entirely legal.

Nigeria poised to become Africa's biggest economy

LAGOS (AFP) - Nigeria could leap-frog South Africa to become Africa's biggest economy this weekend, when the results of a new way of calculating national output are announced.

Government statisticians will unveil the new figures on Sunday, with widespread expectations that their recalculations will catapult the continent's most populous nation into the top spot.

The figures, which will include new and fast-developing sectors such as telecoms and the local film industry, Nollywood, should give foreign investors a better picture of the country's economy.

Some predictions say the revision could see the size of Nigeria's economy increase by as much as 60 percent, taking it from \$264 billion past South Africa's \$384 billion.

But analysts cautioned



The mobile phone industry is now massive in Nigeria - 25 years ago, it did not exist

against viewing the new figures as a sign of development, noting that South Africa was still way ahead in terms of GDP per capita, infrastructure and governance.

Although pockets of vast wealth exist, the last available World Bank figures from

2010 indicated that a staggering 84.5 percent of Nigeria's 170 million people lived on less than \$2 a day.

The Nigerian government is striving to boost the economy. But progress has been undermined by corruption allegations and mismanagement.

Judge declares Mexicana airline bankrupt

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - A Mexican judge has declared Mexicana de Aviacion, one of Latin America's oldest airlines, bankrupt and ordered the sale of the debt-ridden company's assets, a court said yesterday.

The company, founded in 1921, had suspended its operations in August 2010 and was under a form of bankruptcy protection allowing the company to negotiate with creditors and make restructuring plans.

Investors expressed interest in the company but a fi-

ancial rescue never materialized despite extensions given by the court to provide the company more time to find a solution.

A district judge declared the company "in a state of bankruptcy" and ordered the sale of "rights and assets" to pay back lenders, the Federal Judicial Council said in a statement. Two subsidiaries, Click and Link, were also declared bankrupt.

When it suspended operations, Mexicana had \$786 million in assets and debts totalling \$864 million.

Daily Exchange Rates				
Current as of:	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
04/04/2014				
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.59	1.61	1.63
Britain	GBP	2.89	2.94	3.00
Switzerland	CHF	199.31	200.03	200.83
Netherlands	EUR	241.80	244.00	246.46
Sweden	SEK	26.25	26.97	27.77
Denmark	DKK	31.73	32.45	33.25
Norway	NOK	28.74	29.46	30.26
Japan	JPY	169.88	171.44	173.16
(per 10,000)				
All rates for amounts up to AWG 100.00 per item.				

McDonald's to go: US fast food chain shuts doors in Crimea

SIMFEROPOL (AFP) - Crimeans yesterday discovered to their chagrin that they would have to live without Big Macs for a while after McDonald's suspended operations on the Ukrainian peninsula due to its annexation by Russia.

The omnipresent US fast food chain said in a statement posted on its Ukrainian website and taped to the front doors of its shuttered restaurants that the decision was taken "for manufacturing reasons beyond the company's control".

Yet the move out of Crimea by the world's biggest hamburger maker reflects a much broader uncertainty among Western firms about their positions in Russia following the Kremlin's military intervention in the Ukraine.

Washington and the European Union have both im-

posed targeted punitive measures against Moscow officials and threatened broader economic sanctions that could affect the operations of McDonald's and other companies with a broad Russian presence.

The Ukraine's postal service has also asked the UN agency in charge of coordinating global mail to halt service to Crimea because the region's seizure had created "difficulties delivering postal items".

Germany's Deutsche Post -- the world's largest courier company -- confirmed yesterday that it had stopped delivering "letters and parcels (to Crimea) weighing up to 2,000 grams (70 ounces)".

It added that larger parcels still found their way to the scenic region because these were being carried out for the German giant by a local firm.



MOSCOW -- AFP photo shows the Datsun on-DO, a budget sedan, the first model ever to be made in Russia under the Datsun brand, unveiled yesterday in Moscow. The head of the Renault-Nissan alliance said yesterday he sees great potential in Russia despite a slowdown in car sales and is unperturbed by the geopolitical situation, seeming to shrug off Moscow's standoff with the West over the Ukraine. Carlos Ghosn, who heads both Nissan Motor Co and Renault as chief executive, was in Moscow to unveil the resurrected Datsun model for the Russian market.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

A	P	R		O	R	G		S	L	U	R	:		
M	O	I		L	U	A		T	O	R	E	:		
Y	R	S		A	R	M		S	T	R	O	N	G	:
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N	A	N	N	I	E	S		L	E	A	N	:		
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K	N	E	A	D			A	R	K					
			G	A	S	P								
K	I	L	L	S	T									
F	R	E			O	P	E	N						
C	E	N	T		P	E	G							

O Condominiums

A small, exclusive boutique condo resort tailored to your taste



Aruba's most successful developers of secure, superior communities for both the permanent and part time resident market, will soon break ground on what they consider their most exclusive project to date. Known for 16 years of unmatched quality and service, the Cas Bon people are proud to unveil their new pet

project: O Condominiums. This is the same company which developed the innovative Gold Coast Villas community in Malmok.

Renowned for reliable construction, developers of O Condominiums consider the boutique community will be the "jewel in the crown" of the nine projects they have successfully completed and

maintain. It is only three stories and twenty luxurious units, of which 14 will be oceanfront, the remainder, ocean view. Sizes range from one bedroom condominiums with a bath and a half to three-bedrooms, each bedroom with its own bath, and an additional guest half/bath. The designs include a family entertainment room that will

be specially fitted with electronic and Internet connections and outlets enabling a state-of-the-art home theater. An important aspect of this singular facility is owners have various options to customize kitchens and fixtures to their particular tastes and standards.

Each apartment sports an extremely spacious 35 square meter covered terrace overlooking the sea. Windows will be double-paned and doors

have weather stripping to insure less cost on air-conditioning, which is integrated into construction. Homeowners will have input into the finishing they prefer in the kitchen and other rooms, to customize your condominium to your taste. Public amenities will include an elegant pool deck, concierge

services, lounge area, BBQ station, fitness room, assigned parking, additional outside storage for bicycles and personal items, and 24-hour security. A quiet, secluded section of Eagle beach is only a few steps from the front door.

O Condominiums officially opened the doors of their sales office onsite at Eagle Beach on December 24. Interested parties can inspect the project in a spacious plot right next to the gourmet Screaming Eagle restaurant. The project is directed towards discerning clients seeking a top quality property on Aruba in an ideal, tranquil, beachfront location. Prospective property owners will find the Cas Bon people enjoy an exceptional reputation on Aruba for excellence and reliability.

Contact the sales office at 297-732-0000/ 297-287-5300 or visit their website: <http://www.o-eaglebeach.aruba.com>

Discover authentic Aruban cuisine at *The Queen's*



Mama Luisa hard at work in the kitchen

Enjoy a true taste of Aruba without having to travel in the charming surroundings of The Queen's Restaurant in the Palm Beach Plaza Mall. Your host, Varella Innocencia has brought her very popular Oranjestad eatery to Palm Beach, showcasing authentic local cuisine only a short walk away from the major resorts.

The "hipper" and elegant new digs offer beautiful views, but Mama Luisa's magical touch in the kitchen is what

first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. She can be counted on to be conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations. As Varella says, "My mom loves and lives to cook. Even when she is not at work in the restaurant, she is experimenting with new dishes all day at home."

She is the Queen of the Kitchen."

Be sure to try Luisa's acclaimed "Carni Stoba di Ma-

machi" - "Grandma's Beef Stew," or their fresh, whole snapper, with Mama Luisa's delectable salsa criollo. Don't miss the specialty of the house, a favorite local delicacy, Keshi Yena - "Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It is satisfying and particularly memorable. Regional side dishes and some of Mama's secret recipe prepara-

tion of banana hasa and creamy potatoes provide a deliciously picturesque meal.

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to go, reasonably priced and easily accessible. A full menu can be seen on their website, <http://www.thequeensaruba.com/>.

queensaruba.com/.

Aside from an extensive regular menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season, and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't be shy about asking for something that may not be on the menu, as they are always eager to please.

The Queen's is open daily from 3:00 pm - 11:00 pm, offering both indoor and outdoor dining. Telf. 5860606

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Football: Neymar confesses to World Cup butterflies

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - With less than ten weeks to the World Cup on home soil, Brazil star Neymar has admitted to butterflies in his stomach.

"I think it is an honour to wear the Brazil shirt in my country and to see my greatest childhood dream come true, but the nerves are starting to appear and I've butterflies in my stomach," Neymar said in an interview published Friday in *Lance* sports daily.

Brazilian fans are relying on the 22-year-old to help conjure a sixth world title and the Barcelona star insisted that the squad will have the "best possible" preparation as they prepare to face Croatia in their opening match at Sao Paulo on June 12.

"We are going to give our all out there to give Brazil the title," said Neymar, who will be the second-youngest



player to wear the mythical number ten shirt for the Selecao at a World Cup.

Pele famously made the shirt his own as a 17-year-old at the 1958 finals and again in 1962 before another crown in 1970.

Neymar said that "no match will be easy" as Brazil, who lost the final to Uruguay

when they last staged the tournament at home back in 1950, take on the Croatians, Mexico and Cameroon in their pool.

"Your opponents always want to win and will give everything against Brazil. We have no preference regarding who we play as we know every match will be difficult. To get to the final will be a dream" regardless of who the team face, Neymar added.

Asked about missing out on a place in the 2010 squad he said: "It was not my turn (then) to play a World Cup.

"I have always worked for this day -- unfortunately it didn't happen for me on that occasion. But after that I was lucky enough to be called up to wear the Brazilian colors.

"I think the difference between the Neymar of 2010 and 2014 is that this one is more mature and has gained experience -- the pleasure of playing remains the same."

MLB Briefs:



Miguel Cabrera gets 2,000th hit in Tigers win

DETROIT (AFP) : Rajai Davis #20 of the Detroit Tigers celebrates after hitting a three run home run in the fourth inning scoring Nick Castellanos #9 and Andrew Romine #27 during the game against the Baltimore Orioles at Comerica Park Friday in Detroit, Michigan. Miguel Cabrera went 4-for-5 with an RBI single in the sixth inning and a two-run home run in the eighth. The home run was Cabrera's 2,000th career hit. He became the ninth player to reach 2,000 hits before his 31st birthday and the seventh-youngest to reach that mark.



Red Sox receive championship rings

BOSTON - Boston Red Sox players walk on the field after receiving their World Series rings during pre-game ceremonies. Boston managed just five hits against four Milwaukee Brewers pitchers and saw reliever Edward Mujica give up four runs in the top of the ninth in a 6-2 loss on Opening Day at Fenway. The loss snaps a nine-game winning streak in home openers for the Red Sox, who were 0-for-6 with runners in scoring position. Short-stop Xander Bogaerts was saddled with his first error in the majors after a liner in the sixth bounced off his glove and trickled into left field. Bogaerts did end the top of the seventh by charging a slow roller behind the mound and nipping Ryan Braun by a whisker at first.



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Hakeem Lowe, Angelo Rodriquez, Rosel Ramirez, Shaylee Everon y Juvien Winterdal best Taekwondo fighters

ORANJESTAD - On March 28th in the Club Caiquetio, the national Hymn and Flag championship took place. A total of 8 Taekwondo schools participated with athletes fighting in different categories. The job of the Taekwondo Foundation was to choose their best athletes in each category.

In the championship fights, Shaylee Everon of the Washington Taekwondo Center was most outstanding.

At the end of the games, the referees were convinced that she was a great fighter with a unique style. The referees, Master Moices Dumfries, Master Eric Barry and



Master Marilu de Veer sat together to select the best fighters of this national championship. The results: Hakeem Lowe, Angelo Rodriquez, Rosel Ramirez, Shaylee Everon and Juvien Winterdal.

Congratulations to all 8 schools that participated in the national championship. The next championship is scheduled for April 12th organized by the Brazil Taekwondo Foundation



Hakeem Lowe, Jourde Klaber y Clifford Rasmijn of the Brazil Taekwondo Club are off to Santo Domingo

ORANJESTAD - On Thursday morning two athletes of the Brazil Taekwondo Foundation accompanied by coach Clifford Rasmijn travelled to Santo Domingo to participate in the Open of Santo Domingo.

The Santo Domingo Open will be Hakeem Lowe's first international championship for this year. This championship is a part of his preparation for the world championship in the month of July at the Cadet in Azerbaijan. Joudre Klaber has participated in the Canada Open and the USA Open. In Canada he won a bronze medal while in the USA Open he came out in first place. Brazil Taekwondo's athletes are well prepared with their slogan of Train Hard Fight Smart. On Sunday both athletes will get on stage in Santo Domingo to demonstrate to the people of Santo Domingo that Aruba is there and on a high level. They have arrived in Santo Domingo safe and sound. Clifford Rasmijn has begun training them there so that they can be optimally ready for their performance in Santo Domingo.



Football: Brazil will overcome Cup delays, says FIFA chief



RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - FIFA secretary general Jerome Valcke on Friday insisted Brazil will overcome delays to World Cup preparations, indicating that three unfinished stadiums, including opening venue Sao Paulo, will be ready.

Work has been halted this week on two sections of temporary seating at the Corinthians Arena, where Brazil will face Croatia in the tournament curtain-raiser on June 12, following a fatal accident last Saturday, the second at the ground in four months.

There have also been fatal accidents at the stadiums in Brasilia and Manaus, taking the toll of construction worker deaths to seven.

The resulting delays have fueled fears Brazil will struggle to be ready with kickoff now under ten weeks away, given that the stadiums at Curitiba and Cuiaba also remain unfinished and amid doubts over who will pay for temporary facilities still to be delivered at Porto Alegre.

Regarding the Sao Paulo accident, Valcke stressed that "safety is paramount and that is the utmost priority whether it is during construction or the event itself".

FIFA president Sepp Blatter, attending the Under-17 Women's World Cup in Costa Rica, Thursday insisted Brazil will stage an "extraordinary" event -- while again chiding the hosts starting preparations late -- and Valcke said he was just as confident.

Returning from a development seminar in South Africa, where he noted "positive footprints" left by the 2010 tour-

nament, the first held in Africa, Valcke echoed Blatter's comments that Brazil are not the first host nation to scramble to finish preparations.

"I remember well all the doubts and criticism which accompanied the last few months of the preparations in South Africa and how the event staging was constantly put into question by the media.

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